

**TOP SECRET CNESS**

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TCS-1330-57

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3 May 1957

**MEMORANDUM FOR: Project Director**

**SUBJECT: Comparative Film Processing Study**

1. A couple of weeks ago, prompted by [REDACTED] cable evaluating film processed at [REDACTED] Eastman Kodak, I suggested to HTAUTOMAT that it would appear most appropriate and useful if they, as the experts, were to make a comparative study of film processing. I indicated that the important thing was not so much to learn who was the better at it as to uncover ways of improvement for it was in our overall interest to have high grade capabilities where we needed them with reasonable effort.

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2. Attached hereto is a preliminary study with which HTAUTOMAT is not satisfied and which they would have preferred to not show you but acquiesced because I felt that you would find this interesting and useful. HTAUTOMAT was concerned that if given wide circulation this report would set off a series of arguments which could be avoided by awaiting their final study.

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3. My summary of the meaning of the display, which was prepared from random samples of materials processed at [REDACTED] Eastman, is that the field has done very good work and that by and large the definition and contrast is better in those materials processed in the field. However, the very last page indicates a number of troubles in the handling of film which I feel should not be tolerated. I am confident from my discussions with Macia that he will bend every effort to correct these shortcomings.

4. HTAUTOMAT is now making a much deeper study which will be complete in a week or ten days and which will also include


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a report from the Bureau of Standards on chemical analysis of the film itself.

5. Meanwhile, in deference to the HTAUTOMAT view with which I agree, namely, that this is an inadequate basis for judgment, I recommend that you hold this for your own information. The new study will be made available as soon as it is prepared. ILLEGIB

  
JAMES Q. REBER  
Intelligence Requirements Officer

Attachment  
Study

JQR:cw

- 1-Proj Dir w/att
- 2-HTA w/o att
- 3-file
- 4-chrono